
**KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL
REVISION MOCK EXAMS 2016
TOP NATIONAL SCHOOLS**

KABARAK HIGH SCHOOL

ENGLISH

PAPER 2

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KABARAK HIGH SCHOOL KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM 2016

(COMPREHENSION, LITERARY APPRECIATION AND GRAMMAR)
PAPER 2

1. COMPREHENSION

Read the passage below and answer the question that follow.

The career market is full of opportunities. Gone are the days when they had “eitheror” career choices. The times when women, for example, chose between only nursing, teaching and secretarial work are long gone. The explosion in communication technology, and the liberalization and globalization of the world economy, has ensured that there is no longer a dearth and career choices. Today, colleges and universities offer a wide range of training opportunities to high school graduates. This has made choosing a career an involving process. It has also given rise to the need for career counseling.

When choosing a career, whether you have the help of a career counselor or not, there are several factors that you should consider. These include your abilities or talents, your interests, your priorities, and the available opportunities in the job market.

The skills required in a particular career and the ability to gain them through education must be considered when choosing careers. Becoming a doctor, for instance, requires extensive education and training and many years of educational commitment. In addition to the compulsory subjects, the academic background required for this career is good grades in chemistry and biology at secondary level. If your ability in these subjects is just average, you would be overstressing your luck to enroll for Bachelor of Medicine degree course.

In the past, students have chosen to pursue training in engineering even when their ability to handle physics and mathematics was low. This, in many cases has made them drop out of the class mid-course. The waste of time and resources would have been avoided if they had considered a career that did not require the ability to handle mathematics and physics well.

There are times people have been driven to choose a particular career because of the salary and prestige associated with jobs in that field. At times, the desire to take courses comes from within the individual, but most times, individuals feel pressured by peers or family to take certain course. Joining a career in which you have no interest is a recipe for dull life since you will spend most of your working hours doing something you do not like. Your career does not necessarily have to be your passion, but it should not bore you to death either. You can work out your interest by identifying the subjects you enjoy most at school, or the topics that are of interest to you and for which you take the initiative to read on your own.

It is true that many young people are attracted more by the social mobility that the job might provide than by their interest in the career. However, research has found that money does not play as big a role in job satisfaction as many people think. Of course we all have to make a living, but if you do not like your job, it does not matter how much you get paid to do it. What does matter is how well a career choice matches your value. If you value variety, collaboration and creativity, for example, you would not find job satisfaction in a career where you are working alone and doing the same thing every day.

The availability of jobs in a particular field should also be a factor in choosing a career. This should be considered alongside the skills and education sought in a given field. Most times, highly competitive

fields require more education but may not pay well. When there are many applicants for a particular position, unique personality traits become added benefit. However, in fields where there are fewer applicants than the positions available, the pay may be more and the job may require less education.

Nevertheless, one should not be discouraged by the scarcity of employment positions because institutions of higher learning now emphasize that they are not simply training people to get out and look for jobs. They are training people to get out and create jobs.

Therefore, the availability of job opportunities is not necessarily limited to the presence of employers. It also encompasses opportunities for self-employment which everyone is free to explore.

1. What has created necessity for career counseling? (1 mark)
2. Why do you think the writer cites engineering in the passage? (2 marks)
3. What do you think should be the most important factor in choosing a career? Give reason for your answer. (2 marks)
4. In about fifty words, summarize the importance of knowing the availability of jobs in the career field one wants to join. (3 marks)
Rough draft.
Fair copy
5. What evidence is given in the passage to support the statement "money does not play as a role in job satisfaction"? (2 marks)
6. a) "The waste of time and resources would have been avoided if they had considered a career that did not require the ability to handle mathematics and physics." (Begin: If.....) (2 marks)
b) The career market is full of many opportunities. (Begin: There.....) (1 mark)
c) Your career does not necessarily have to be your passion. (Re-write adding a question tag. (1 mark)
7. Why is one's ability an important factor in career choices? (2 marks)
8. Explain the meaning of the following words as used in passage. (3 marks)
 - a) Dearth
 - b) Liberalization
 - c) Social mobility

2. **Read the Excerpt below and answer the questions that follow.**

FIRST LAYER (bowing): Thank you, your honour. High court of justice, of all ties the ties of blood is strongest. Mother and child – is there a more intimate relationship? Can one tear a child from its mother? High court of justice, she has conceived it in the holy ecstasies of love. She has carried it in her womb. She has fed it with her blood. She has borne it with pain. High court of justice, it has been observed that the wild tigress, robbed of her young, roams restless through the mountains, shrunk to a shadow. Nature herself.....

AZDAK (interrupting, to Grusha): What's your answer to all this and anything else that lawyer might have to say?

GRUSHA: He's mine.

AZDKA: Is that all? I hope you can prove it. Why should I assign the child to you in any case?

GRUSHA: I brought him up like the priest says "according to my best knowledge and conscience." I always found him something to eat. Most of the he had a roof over his head. And I went to such trouble for him. I had expenses too. I didn't look out for my own comfort. I brought the child up to be friendly with everyone, and from the beginning taught him to work. As well as he could, that is. He's still very little.

FIRST LAWYER Your honour, it is significant that the girl herself doesn't claim any tie of blood

between her and the child.

AZDKA: The court takes note of that.

FIRST LAWYER Thank you, your honour. And now permit a woman bowed in sorrow
- who has already lost her husband and now has also to fear the loss of her child
- to address a few words to you. The gracious Natella Abashwili is.

GOVERNOR'S WIFE (*quietly*): A most cruel fate, sir, forces me to describe to you the tortures of a bereaved mother's soul, the anxiety, the sleepless nights, the.....

SECOND LAWYER (*bursting out*): It's outrageous the way this woman is being treated! Her husband's palace is closed to her! The revenue of her states is blocked, and she is cold-bloodedly told that it's tied to the heir. She can't do a thing without that child. She can't even pay her lawyers! (To the FIRST LAWYER, *Who desperate about this outburst, makes frantic gestures to keep him from speaking*)
Dear Illo Shuboladze, surely it can be divulged now that the Abashwili estates are at stake?

FIRST LAWYER Please, Honoured Sandro Oboladze! We agreed.....(To AZDAK:) Of course it is correct that the trial will also decide if our noble client can take over the Abashwili estates, which are rather extensive. I say "also" advisedly, for in the foreground stands the human tragedy of a mother, as Natella Abashwili very properly explained in the first words of her moving statement. Even if Michael Abashwili were not heir to the estates, he would still be the dearly beloved child of my client.

AZDAK: Stop! The court is touched by the mention of estates. It's a proof of human feeling.

SECOND LAWYER Thanks, Your Honour. Dear Illo Shuboladze, we can prove in any case that the woman who took the child is not the child's mother. Permit me to lay before the court the bare facts. High court of justice, by an unfortunate chain of circumstances, Michael Abashwili was left behind on the Easter Sunday while his mother was making her escape. Grusha, a palace kitchen maid, was seen with the baby.....

COOK All her mistress was thinking of was what dresses she'd take along!

Questions

- a) Recount the circumstances that lead to the events in the passage above. (4 marks)
 - b) In note form, summarize the points in the argument that the first lawyer gives in favour of Natella Abashwili. (4 marks)
 - c) After Grusha gives her argument, the first lawyer thinks that she weakened her own case. Why? (1 mark)
 - d) Identify one character trait of the following as revealed in the passage
 - i) Natella Abashwili (2 marks)
 - ii) Grusha (2 marks)
 - e) Explain two main themes dealt with in the passage. (4 marks)
 - f) Give the meaning of "I don't look out for my own comfort.' (1 mark)
 - g) Identify two stylistic devices employed by the playwright. (4 marks)
 - h) Give two meaning of the word honor. (2 marks)
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- i) "She has carried it in her womb" Rewrite in inverted form. (1 mark)

3. Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow.
"Sympathy"

I know what the caged bird feels, alas!
When the sun is bright on the upland slopes;
When the wind stirs soft through the springing grass
And the river flows like a stream of grass;
When the first bird sings and the first bud opes,
And the faint perfume from its petals steals –
I know what the caged bird feels!

I know why the caged bird beats its wing
Till its blood is red on the cruel bars;
For he must fly back to his perch and cling
When he rather would be on the branch a –swing;
And a pain still throbs in the old, old scars
And they pulse again with a keener sting –
I know why he beats his wing!

I know why the caged bird sings, ah me,
When his wing is bruised and his bosom sore,
When he beats his bars and would be free;
It is not a song of joy or glee,
But a prayer that he sends from his heart's deep core,
But a plea, that upward to heaven he fings –
I know why the caged bird sings!

(Adapted from the poem by Laurence Donbar in 'American Negro Poetry' edited by ArnaBomtemp. New York: Hill and Waug 1974)

Questions

- a) Explain briefly what the poem is about. (3 marks)
- b) What does the poet focus on in each of the three stanzas? (6 marks)
- c) How would you describe the persona's feelings towards the caged bird? (4 marks)
- d) What can we infer about the persona's own experiences? (3 marks)
- e) Identify a simile in the first stanza and explain why it is used. (2 marks)
- f) Explain the meaning of the following lines:
 - (i) And the faint perfume from the petals steals (1 mark)
- g) Supply another suitable title for this poem. (1 mark)

4. GRAMMAR

Answer the following questions according to the instructions given after each.

- (i) Canadian goose are creating crisis south of their usual range (replace the underlined words with their plural forms.)
- (ii) Kenyan oil was used by the colonialists in the manufacture of candles . (Write in the active voice.)
- (iii) You should not walk out of the house at night under any circumstances. (Begin: Under no circumstances.....)
- (iv) The television comes with a full two-year warranty. (replace the underlined word with a word that means the same)
- (v) In the 16th century, Shakespeare wrote many plays. (Underlined the adverbial phrase)